



Auchrobert Community Energy Society Community Fund

The Auchrobert Community Energy Society Community Fund arises because local people have bought a stake in the Auchrobert Windfarm. The Auchrobert Community Energy Society Board allocates a proportion of profits every year towards the Community Fund which supports communities in the vicinity of the windfarm to pursue environmental projects.

We anticipate total fund of around £10,000 will be available in 2026, although this may increase if energy prices rise. The Board invite applications for between £500 up to £5,000. We expect there to be competition for the available funding and applications will be assessed against our funding priorities, with awards more likely for those which are a close fit.

Funding priorities are:

- Projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions including improving energy efficiency; installing micro-renewables on community buildings; active and low emission travel.
- Projects to support conservation, biodiversity and wildlife
- Projects which provide environmental education and information

Funding can be provided for feasibility studies to develop projects on these themes.

Other projects which benefit communities in the target area may be considered if funds allow.

The closing date for applications will be the 31st May 2026.

Projects will be considered by the Auchrobert Community Energy Society Board and assessed against the aims of the Fund. The Board is not able to enter into discussions about their decision.

Please contact us at <mailto:info@auchrobert.coop> for if you have any questions or need further advice on completing your application.

Eligibility

- The fund is available to constituted groups in South Lanarkshire and East Ayrshire within a 10 mile radius of Auchrobert Wind Farm (see map below for catchment area).
- Groups must have an up-to-date Constitution, Articles of Association or Governance Document.
- Applicants must have a Bank, Building Society or Credit Union Account in the name of the organisation.
- Any grant received must be spent within one year of award.
- Groups will not be eligible to make an application for another grant from the fund if monitoring and evaluation reports for previous grants have not been completed on time.
- Applications to carry out feasibility studies for projects with fit with the aims of the fund will be considered.

We will not fund the following:

- The repayment of loans or payment of debts.
- Payments towards areas generally understood to be the responsibility of statutory authorities including schools. i.e. projects that take place in school, during school hours and/or only for the benefit of the pupils will not be considered. PTAs/Parent Councils can apply if appropriately constituted but must provide evidence that the project has genuine wider community benefit.
- Groups who will then distribute the funds as grants, prizes or bursaries.
- Applications made by one group on behalf of another.
- General fundraising appeals or activities.
- We are not able to support year on year revenue funding for projects.
- The purchase of food, alcohol, tobacco or drugs. There is no restriction on having food, alcohol, tobacco or nicotine products at funded events, but the grant should not be used to purchase them.
- Promotion of religious or political views.
- Projects where the main beneficiaries reside outwith our catchment area even if the organisation's address is within those areas.
- Activities which are critical of renewable energy.
- Costs which have already been incurred at the time of application.
- Activities which might bring Auchrobert Community Energy Society into disrepute.
- Activities which could be funded by the existing unrestricted reserves of an organisation unless there is an explanation for this.

Application Procedure

If possible please apply using the secure online form at <https://auchrobert.coop/community-benefit/>. A Word copy of the form is also provided to enable you to view the questions and prepare your application before filling in the online form. If you are unable to use the online form, you may email your application to info@auchrobert.coop or post it to Auchrobert Community Energy Society, c/o Energy4All, Unit 26, Trinity Enterprise Centre, Furness Business Park, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA14 2PN. As your application form contains personal information, we ask you to password protect it if sending by email and send the password in separate email. You should include any supporting material that you think will help us to understand your idea better. We may ask for more information.

Applications must be received by 31st May 2026.

The Board will acknowledge your application within 21 days and announce awards by 30th June 2026.

Final decisions will be entirely at board's discretion and the board reserves the right not to award any funding if, in its opinion, no suitable applications are received.

For more information about us, see <http://auchrobert.coop/>

Please note that this fund is separate to the Nadara Auchrobert Community Fund which is administered by Foundation Scotland and has a different catchment area and funding objectives. Do not submit applications for our grants to Foundation Scotland.

Payment of Award

- Grants will be paid to a Bank, Building Society or Credit Union Account in the name of the organisation.
- Payments will be made shortly after the awards are announced.
- If awarded a grant you will be asked to provide an invoice to trigger the release of your grant.
- You will be notified when payment has been made and asked to confirm receipt of funds.

Reporting on your project.

- If your application is successful, we ask that you provide receipts and a report on the project with 3 months of completion.
- Grant recipients should acknowledge the grant in any publicity related to the project. Auchrobert Community Energy Society may publicise grant awards
- Grant-holders may be invited to give a short presentation on their project at the Auchrobert Community Energy Society AGM (normally held online in November) or at a Board Meeting.
- Any unspent grant must be returned to the Auchrobert Community Energy Society Community Fund unless otherwise agreed.

Auchrobert Community Energy Society Community Benefit Fund Area

